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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/748,539	12/26/2000	Barbara A. Brown	APP1P007	3023
7590	05/04/2004			
Steve Gupta, Vice President Finance Appareon 1100 Island Drive Redwood City, CA 94065			EXAMINER MANIWANG, JOSEPH R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2144	6
DATE MAILED: 05/04/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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MAY 12 2004

Technology Center 2100

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/748,539

Applicant(s)

BROWN, BARBARA A.

Examiner

Joseph R Maniwang

Art Unit

2144

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldberg et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,161,082), hereinafter referred to as Goldberg, and further in view of Krueger et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,098,086), hereinafter referred to as Krueger.

Goldberg disclosed a network-based system for providing language translation services to user communication devices. The translation process involved receiving from a first user a communication over a network. The communication was then translated from the first language of the first user into a second language of a second user. The communication could be sent to the second user through the network (see column 3, lines 49-56). Goldberg also disclosed the possibility of returning a translated communication back to the first user (see column 5, lines 52-59). Goldberg disclosed the translation system in the context of e-mail or "chat" environments (see column 3, lines 20-25). In such environments, communications were in the form of text (see column 2, lines 38-41). Goldberg also disclosed the ability to edit translated text, and to save edited translations into a database (see column 4, lines 23-44).

While Goldberg disclosed the ability to edit translated text and to return translated text to the first user, Goldberg did not specifically disclose a virtual keyboard for facilitating such operations, wherein the virtual keyboard included alphanumeric characters in the second language.

In a related art of multilingual communications over a computer network, Krueger disclosed a method for inputting Japanese text using a keyboard. The keyboard could be displayed on a display device as a virtual keyboard, and also contained romaji characters from the Japanese language (see column 2, lines 42-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Goldberg and Krueger to provide a text translation system, allowing the user to edit a translated text using a virtual keyboard with characters from the second language. As the invention of Goldberg related to translation of text into other languages, the ability to input characters from the other languages would clearly be advantageous. Krueger provided teachings allowing a user to do so using a virtual keyboard, the use of which was well known at the time of invention. One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention would have been motivated to consider the use of a virtual keyboard as it facilitated text entry for communication devices with more limited keyboards for text entry (see column 2, lines 1-19). Furthermore, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to consider including characters in the second language in the virtual keyboard as Krueger disclosed that, for example, in the case of Japanese romaji, using a modified keyboard layout that included romaji characters offered advantages over the normal QWERTY

keyboard by reducing time and effort required to enter Japanese text (see column 6, lines 47-64).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Johnson et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,568,383) disclosed a language translation system for communicating documents over a network.

Peterson et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,598,015) disclosed a method and system for computer-assisted language translation over a network.

Bourbonnais et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,338,033) disclosed a network-based system for translating documents to other languages.

Kurachi et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,092,035) disclosed a client-server system allowing for multilingual transmission of documents.

Flanagan et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,339,754) disclosed a translation system for translating messages in a real-time messaging system.


Eslambolchi et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,875,422) disclosed a language translation system for using in a telecommunications network, including the ability to translate text messages.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph R Maniwang whose telephone number is (703) 305-3179. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William A Cuchlinski can be reached on (703)308-3873. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JM


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